

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Training Area

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. From 8 to 10 a.m. on 25 September 1951, an undetermined number of 85-mm AA guns were seen firing at a towed sleeve target in the Altengrabow (M 53/Z 00) training area. Three points of burst were seen at a time. Five heavy artillery pieces practiced firing with live ammunition from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Fire of heavy artillery pieces was also heard from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 26 September. AA fire at a towed sleeve target was held from 2 to 9 p.m. on 27 September. Three heavy AA guns fired at a sleeve target, which was illuminated by three searchlights, from 7 to 9 p.m. *

2. A train of 60 cars carrying 12 rocket launchers and an undetermined number of trucks were dispatched from Altengrabow on 30 September.

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3. On 4 October, 180 Russian women arrived at Altengrabow and were issued uniforms immediately.

4. A field exercise involving an undetermined number of T-34 tanks and six single-engine aircraft was held from 10 a.m. to noon of 5 October. An AAA unit with six guns and vehicles

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practiced from 8 to 11 a.m. on 8 October. A large-scale field exercise and firing practice, involving heavy artillery pieces, tanks, 3 single-engine aircraft and 1 captive balloon, was held from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on 9 October. An undetermined number of heavy artillery pieces practiced firing during the same night from 4 p.m. to 6 a.m. of the following day. Two aircraft were over the area from 8 to 10 p.m. on 10 October. An artillery unit held an advanced combat practice firing from 2 to 4 p.m. on 10 October, 2 single-engine aircraft and 8 jet fighters taking part in the exercises. An artillery unit with six 150-mm guns and vehicles

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left on 11 October, apparently for target practice with live ammunition. An advanced combat practice involving a heavy artillery unit and two single-engine aircraft was held from 8 to 12 a.m. on 12 October. *

5. An artillery unit departed from Altengrabow by rail on 13 October. Twelve 150-mm guns and trucks

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were observed with the unit. *** The following trucks were identified at the ration supply point between

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25 September and 13 October:

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- 25X1A * Comment. The frequent target practices aided by artillery observation airplanes is a prominent feature of the intensive training program observed between 25 September and 12 October 1951. The heavy artillery may have been of the 18th (?) Hvy How Arty Brig of the 6th Arty Div, because components of this unit left Brandenburg on several trains at the end of September 1951, probably for Altengradow. The AAA unit with 6 artillery pieces and vehicles of the 3d Gds (?) AT Arty Brig of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps, which is mentioned in the present report, was probably an AT artillery unit. In addition to the latter unit, vehicles of the unidentified artillery division from Potsdam were also observed at Altengradow. The ration supply trucks belonged to the unidentified Mort Brig, possibly the 65th; the 4th (?) AT Arty Brig of the IV Arty Corps, headquarters units of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps, the 6th Arty Div, the 3d Gds (?) AT Arty Brig, the 43d (Gds) Gun Arty Brig of the Eighth Gds Army and to an unidentified supplementary unit. 25X1C
- 25X1A ** Comment. According to the truck and weapons, a component of the 25th RL Brig or Regt was entrained. The train is probably the same one that another source reported en route from Altengradow to Premnitz on 1 October 1951. 25X1A
- 25X1A *** Comment. According to a component of the 6th Arty Div was entrained. A the arrival in Rathenow of components of the 6th Arty Div between 16 and 18 September 1951. 25X1C
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